CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A remote server management controller, comprising:

an external communication interface adapted to receive data from a remote user;

5 an IOP adapted to:

receive data from the external communication interface; and

transmit data corresponding to the data received from the external communication

interface to an OS of a managed server; and

a VCD interface adapted to intercept data received from the OS, the data received from the

10 OS being intended for a specific communication interface, and to redirect the data received

from the OS to the remote user via the external communication interface instead of

directing the data received from the OS to the specific communication interface.

2. The remote server management controller of claim 1, wherein the specific

15 communication interface is a UART interface of the managed server.

3. The remote server management controller of claim 1, wherein the specific

communication interface is a USB host controller of the managed server.

20 4. The remote server management controller of claim 1, wherein data received from

the user over the external communication interface is transmitted to the OS of the managed server

via a UART interface.

5. The remote server management controller of claim 1, wherein data received from the user over the external communication interface is transmitted to the OS of the managed server via a USB interface.

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6. The remote server management controller of claim 1, wherein the specific communication interface is a 1394 interface of the managed server.

7. The remote server management controller of claim 1, wherein data received from the user over the external communication interface is transmitted to the OS of the managed server

10 via a 1394 interface.

8. The remote server management controller of claim 1, wherein the external communication interface is an Ethernet interface.

15 9. A remote server management controller, comprising:

an IOP adapted to monitor interrupt data transmitted from an SIO to a southbridge, to

alter the interrupt data transmitted from the SIO based on input received from an external

user via an external communication interface and to transmit the altered interrupt data to a

managed server; and

20 a VCD adapted to:

intercept responsive data intended to be transmitted to the SIO in response to the

altered interrupt data; and

prevent the responsive data from reaching the SIO.

10. The remote server management controller of claim 9 wherein the VCD is further

adapted to route the responsive data to the remote user via the external communication interface.

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11. The remote server management controller of claim 9 wherein the input received

from the external user is adapted to emulate an interrupt generated by a device in the managed

server.

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12. The remote server management controller of claim 9 wherein the external

communication interface is an Ethernet interface.

13. A method of remotely retrieving data from an OS, the method comprising the acts

of:

15   receiving a request for OS information from a remote user;

transmitting the request for OS information to the OS;

receiving data responsive to the act of transmitting the request to the OS, the data being

intended for a specific communication interface;

redirecting the data received from the OS responsive to the act of transmitting the request

20   to the OS to the remote user instead of to the specific communication interface.

14.   The method of claim 13 wherein the specific communication interface is a UART

interface.

15.   The method of claim 13 wherein the specific communication interface is a USB

interface.

16.   The method of claim 13 wherein the specific communication interface is a 1394

interface.

17.   The method of claim 13 further comprising the act of enabling an Ethernet

interface to receive the request for OS information.

18.   The method of claim 13 further comprising the act of initiating an out-of-band

management communication session.

19.   The method of claim 13 further comprising the act of enabling a VCD to transmit

the request for OS information to the OS.

20.   The method of claim 13 wherein the recited acts are performed in the recited

order.